

LEE SCHOOL DISTRICT

521 Park Street
Bishopville, South Carolina 29010

GRADES	PK-12	
ENROLLMENT	2,675 Students	
SUPERINTENDENT	Dr. Willie Townes	803-484-5327
BOARD CHAIR	Mrs. Queenie Boyd	803-486-6326
FISCAL AUTHORITY	County Council	

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

UNSATISFACTORY

Absolute Ratings of Districts with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
0	0	1	3	5

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

UNSATISFACTORY

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

N/A

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

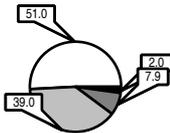
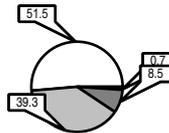
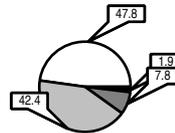
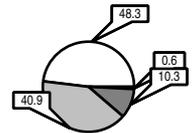
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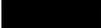
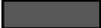
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PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Unsatisfactory	Below Average	N/A
2002	Below Average	Average	N/A
2003	Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory	N/A
2004			

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS**Our District****Mathematics****English/Language Arts****Districts with Students like Ours****Mathematics****English/Language Arts****Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

Percent	Our District			Districts with Students Like Ours		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Passed all 3 subtests	46.8	41.8	32.9	50.1	44.6	44.8
Passed 2 subtests	23.4	20.6	21.1	19.9	24.9	23.8
Passed 1 subtest	15.8	18.8	27.0	16.6	15.5	19.1
Passed no subtests	13.9	18.8	17.8	13.4	15.0	11.2

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS

Percent of	Our District	Districts with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	2.1	2.5
Seniors who met the SAT requirement	2.1	4.4
Seniors who met the grade point average	27.0	30.9

*Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced	State Objective
English/Language Arts								
All students	1,364	97.7	51.5	39.3	8.5	0.7	9.2	17.6
Gender								
Male	717	96.4	60.2	33.3	6.2	0.3	6.5	17.6
Female	647	99.2	42.6	45.4	11.0	1.1	12.1	17.6
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	73	95.9	34.1	50.0	15.9		15.9	17.6
African-American	1,278	97.9	52.2	39.0	8.1	0.7	8.8	17.6
Asian/Pacific Islander		0.0						17.6
Hispanic	12	91.7	45.5	27.3	27.3		27.3	17.6
American Indian/Alaskan		0.0						17.6
Disability Status								
Not disabled	1,167	98.5	48.1	41.3	9.8	0.8	10.6	17.6
Disabled	197	93.4	73.2	26.1	0.6		0.6	17.6
Migrant Status								
Migrant		0.0						17.6
Non-migrant	1,364	97.7	51.5	39.2	8.6	0.7	9.3	17.6
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	4	75.0						17.6
Non-limited English proficient	1,360	97.8	51.5	39.3	8.5	0.7	9.2	17.6
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	1,210	97.9	53.2	38.5	7.6	0.7	8.3	17.6
Full-pay meals	154	96.8	34.0	47.0	18.0	1.0	19.0	17.6

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced	State Objective
Mathematics								
All students	1,364	99.0	51.0	39.0	7.9	2.0	9.9	15.5
Gender								
Male	717	98.3	55.3	37.3	6.4	1.0	7.4	15.5
Female	647	99.7	46.5	40.9	9.6	3.0	12.6	15.5
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	73	97.3	34.9	39.5	16.3	9.3	25.6	15.5
African-American	1,278	99.1	51.6	39.3	7.4	1.6	9.1	15.5
Asian/Pacific Islander		0.0						15.5
Hispanic	12	100.0	50.0	16.7	25.0	8.3	33.3	15.5
American Indian/Alaskan		0.0						15.5
Disability Status								
Not disabled	1,167	99.3	47.3	41.3	9.1	2.3	11.4	15.5
Disabled	197	97.0	74.4	25.0	0.6		0.6	15.5
Migrant Status								
Migrant		0.0						15.5
Non-migrant	1,364	99.0	51.0	39.2	7.9	2.0	9.9	15.5
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	4	100.0						15.5
Non-limited English proficient	1,360	99.0	50.9	39.0	8.0	2.0	10.0	15.5
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	1,210	99.0	53.0	38.2	7.3	1.5	8.8	15.5
Full-pay meals	154	98.7	30.4	48.0	14.7	6.9	21.6	15.5

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL

		Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
English/Language Arts								
2002	Grade 3	199		43.7	42.1	13.7	0.5	14.2
	Grade 4	252		43.2	45.6	11.2		11.2
	Grade 5	218		53.0	41.4	5.6		5.6
	Grade 6	196		47.3	39.1	13.0	0.5	13.6
	Grade 7	227		57.1	37.9	4.5	0.4	4.9
	Grade 8	193		58.1	35.6	5.8	0.5	6.3
2003	Grade 3	222	98.6	33.9	43.5	21.0	1.6	22.6
	Grade 4	215	96.7	49.7	43.2	6.5	0.6	7.1
	Grade 5	244	99.2	54.6	38.0	6.9	0.5	7.4
	Grade 6	250	96.8	48.8	42.2	7.6	1.4	9.0
	Grade 7	216	96.8	59.1	36.4	4.5		4.5
	Grade 8	217	98.2	62.8	32.5	4.7		4.7

		Mathematics						
2002	Grade 3	199		50.8	37.8	9.2	2.2	11.4
	Grade 4	252		53.0	35.1	9.2	2.8	12.0
	Grade 5	218		60.2	32.4	5.1	2.3	7.4
	Grade 6	196		53.5	37.3	7.0	2.2	9.2
	Grade 7	227		69.6	25.4	4.0	0.9	4.9
	Grade 8	193		71.4	25.0	1.6	2.1	3.6
2003	Grade 3	222	100.0	39.4	46.3	9.0	5.3	14.4
	Grade 4	215	98.6	48.5	43.3	8.2		8.2
	Grade 5	244	99.2	49.3	43.3	7.0	0.5	7.4
	Grade 6	250	98.8	47.0	36.7	11.6	4.7	16.3
	Grade 7	216	98.6	63.5	27.0	8.4	1.1	9.6
	Grade 8	217	98.6	59.7	37.2	3.1		3.1

STATE PERFORMANCE ON NATIONAL TESTS

Terra Nova: a national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percentage of students scoring in the upper half, 2002								
Grade	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
3	49.2	50.0	51.5	50.0	58.2	50.0	54.8	50.0
6	57.6	50.0	49.0	50.0	51.2	50.0	51.4	50.0
9*	56.1	50.0	46.8	50.0	51.6	50.0	51.2	50.0

* Grade 9 estimates were based on a sample that may not be representative of the entire 9th grade population.

National Assessment of Educational Progress: a national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

		Percent of students scoring								
Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	8	2002	1	3	23	30	44	43	32	25
Writing	4	2002	1	2	16	26	65	58	18	14
Mathematics	8	2000	2	5	15	22	37	38	45	34

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2003		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Graduation Rate	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
All Students	143	86.7%	141	2.1%	172	71.5%
Gender						
Male	62	85.5%	54	1.9%	75	69.3%
Female	81	87.7%	87	2.3%	97	73.2%
Race or Ethnic Group						
African American	129	85.3%	132	2.3%	162	70.4%
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	1	I/S	1	I/S
White	13	100.0%	8	0.0%	9	88.9%
Other	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Disability Status						
Non-speech disabilities	21	95.2%	2	I/S	13	15.4%
Students without disabilities	122	85.2%	139	2.2%	0	76.1%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-migrant	117	88.9%	141	2.1%	0	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English proficient	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-LEP	128	85.9%	141	2.1%	171	71.9%
Lunch Status						
Subsidized meals	90	82.2%	0	N/A	135	0.0%
Full-pay meals	37	94.6%	141	2.1%	37	99.0%

* Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

2002-2003 COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS

SAT	Verbal		Math		Total					
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003				
District	396	431	392	446	788	877				
State	488	493	493	496	981	989				
Nation	504	507	516	519	1020	1026				
ACT	English		Math		Reading		Science		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
District	13.6	13.4	14.8	15.5	12.9	14.6	15.4	16.3	14.3	15.1
State	18.8	18.7	19.1	19.0	19.3	19.4	19.2	19.2	19.2	19.2
Nation	20.2	20.3	20.6	20.6	21.1	21.2	20.8	20.8	20.8	20.8

SCHOOLS IN "SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS"

	2002		2003			2002		2003	
	Yes	No	Yes	No		Yes	No	Yes	No
Bishopville Primary	Yes	No	Yes	No	Lower Lee Elementary	Yes	No	Yes	No

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n= 2,675)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Retention rate	6.6%	Down from 9.9%	4.7%	4.0%
Attendance rate	92.7%	Down from 93.9%	94.7%	95.4%
Meeting grade 1 & 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eligible for gifted and talented	2.3%	Up from 1.7%	5.2%	10.7%
On academic plans	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
On academic probation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With disabilities other than speech	8.6%	Up from 8.4%	10.6%	10.6%
Older than usual for grade	8.3%	Down from 10.6%	8.7%	5.5%
Suspended or expelled	9.4%	Up from 3.0%	4.6%	1.6%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	8.8%	N/A	N/A	10.0%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	350	Up from 317	73	186
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	35	Up from 31	9	40

Teachers (n= 232)

Teachers with advanced degrees	31.0%	Down from 32.6%	39.3%	47.8%
Continuing contract teachers	63.8%	Up from 63.1%	75.2%	82.8%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	79.7%	Up from 77.9%	79.7%	89.5%
Teacher attendance rate	95.2%	Up from 95.0%	94.5%	95.1%
Average teacher salary	\$35,457	Down 2.6%	\$37,354	\$39,707
Prof. development days/teacher	10.4 days	Up from 8.0 days	10.7 days	11.3 days

District

Superintendent's years at district	7.0	Up from 5.5	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	18.7 to 1	Up from 8.9 to 1	17.8 to 1	20.6 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.6%	Down from 87.5%	86.7%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$8,903	Up 10.9%	\$8,903	\$7,412
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	54.8%	Up from 52.7%	49.9%	56.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Fair	Down from Good	Fair	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	99.5%	Up from 95.5%	95.4%	96.1%
Number of schools	7	Down from 8	4	8
Number of magnet schools	0	No change	0	0
Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
Portable classrooms	8.2%	Down from 8.8%	12.1%	3.5%
Average age in years of school facility	43	N/A	39	26
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	7	N/A	2	8

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable	N/C Not Collected	N/R Not Reported	I/S Insufficient Sample
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SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE

Board Membership 7 trustees elected to single-member seats

Fiscal Authority County Council

Average Number of Hours of Training Annually 37.0 per board member

Percent new trustees completing orientation N/A

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

On behalf of the Lee County School District I am elated to present the district's report card to our public. I am pleased with the incremental gains that have become an earmark for our district. Despite budgetary constraints and restrictions, we have persevered.

The report card reflects the hard work and dedication of our students, parents, teachers, principals and administrators, support staff and Board of Trustees. The results indicate that we are on the high road to improvement with increased academic achievement, improved student attendance, greater teacher retention, and better parent involvement.

Lee Central High School achieved the highest state point gain, 89 points, on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Initial investigation of our Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT) scores show that our students continue to make advancements at each grade level. Our "three-peat" Lee Central High School Girl's Basketball Team captured the State AA Championship for three consecutive years. These achievements indicate that our students are receiving a well rounded education.

Our schools focus on instruction and teaching of the state standards. Benchmark assessments are designed to give interim feedback for re-teaching and student advancement. Principals regularly monitor classroom instruction and school data to make informed decisions and changes.

Many efforts undergird curriculum implementation. Innovative, scientifically research-based programs enhance the curriculum at each site (i.e., Success for All, Read 180, "High Schools That Work"). Community involvement includes active business partnerships, "Lunch Buddies" and the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce High Performance Partnerships programs. The district has taken advantage of federal, state and local grants to enrich its present curriculum offerings.

In order to continue on our journey to excellence, we invite the community to become further involved in our schools. Good schools contribute to a good community. "Together" we will see our mission transform from mere words to a firm reality.

Dr. Willie Townes,

DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal